

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 190599
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:JEBURGESS/AF/E:GWSCOTT:CJ
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PM/ISO:GCHURCHILL (SUBS)
AF/E:RPOST
OASD/ISA:RMURRAY (SUBS)
NEA/RA:COL. GROSS (SUBS)
NSC STAFF:CDR J. WTEWARD (SUBS)
S/S-O :TMARTIN

-----110941 280057Z /14

O R 280023Z JUL 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
SECDEF WASHDC
JCS WASHDC
CNO
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON
CINCPAC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
COMIDEASTFOR
CINCPACFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190599

EXDIS- MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

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PAGE 02 STATE 190599

TAGS: OCLR, US, SO

SUBJECT: NAVAL SHIP VISIT TO MOGADISCIO

REF: MOGADISCIO 1573 (NOTAL)

I.FOR MOGADISCIO: DECISION HAS BEEN MADE TO ACCEPT RECENT

SOMALI OVERTURE ON US SHIP VISIT, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME PROPOSING A DATE CONSISTENT WITH ROUTINE OPERATIONAL PLANNING SO AS TO MUTE POSSIBLE CHARGES OF A POLITICALLY INSPIRED CRASH EFFORT. DEPT HAS SUGGESTED AND DOD HAS AGREED TO REQUEST A VISIT BY A DESTROYER-TYPE MIDEASTFOR SHIP AT MOGADISCIO IN AUGUST/SEPTEMBER TIMEFRAME. WE WILL WISH TO ASSESS IMPACT OF FIRST VISIT BEFORE REQUESTING A SUBSEQUENT PORT CALL IN SOMALIA. WE BELIEVE THAT LOW-KEY HANDLING OF OUR DECISION MAY HELP TO PREVENT DISPROPORTIONATE RESPONSES IN REGIONAL CAPITALS. YOU SHOULD NOT APPROACH GSDR ON THIS SUBJECT UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.

2. FOR NAIROBI: WE BELIEVE THAT THE CLOSENESS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE KENYANS REQUIRES THAT THEY BE GIVEN THE COURTESY OF ADVANCE NOTICE OF OUR DECISION. EMBASSY NAIROBI SHOULD THEREFORE CALL ON APPROPRIATE GOK OFFICIAL TO CONVEY FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS IN A LOW-KEYED MANNER:

-- SOMALI GOVERNMENT HAS INDICATED TO US THAT A REQUEST FOR A PORT CALL BY A US NAVY SHIP WOULD BE FAVORABLY RECEIVED. THIS INDICATES TO US THAT SOMALIS BELIEVE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM IS RETURNING TO A MORE NORMAL BASIS. WE INTERPRET THIS AS A SIGN OF INCREASED SOMALI OPENNESS TO MODERATE INFLUENCE WHICH WILL IN THE LONG RUN PROVE FAVORABLE TO KENYA'S INTEREST.
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-- AS GOK ALSO AWARE, OUR CURRENT ACCESS TO PORTS IN REGION IS IN FACT EXTREMELY LIMITED. FOR INSTANCE, DESPITE OUR RECORD OF CONTINUED INTEREST IN CALLING AT ETHIOPIAN PORTS, THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT HAS CONSISTENTLY REFUSED. WE THEREFORE DESIRE TO SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES TO ENLARGE THE NUMBER OF PORTS WHERE OUR SHIPS CAN CALL.

-- WE HAVE THEREFORE DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE SOMALI OVERTURE FOR A US NAVAL VESSEL TO VISIT MOGADISCIO IN AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER.

-- WE DO NOT NORMALLY ASCRIBE SUFFICIENT SIGNIFICANCE TO A PORT CALL TO MAKE A POINT OF BRINGING IT TO THE ATTENTION OF A NEARBY GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, IN LINE WITH OUR PRACTICE OF CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH KENYA ON REGIONAL CONCERNS, WHICH DERIVES FROM THE SPECIAL TIES BETWEEN KENYA AND THE US, WE WANTED YOU TO HAVE ADVANCE NOTICE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT.

3. IF STATUS OF US MILITARY SURVEY TEAM TO SOMALIA IS

RAISED, YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT NO DECISION HAS YET
BEEN MADE ON THE DISPATCH OF A TEAM.

4. PLEASE ATTEMPT TO MAKE CALL ON MORNING OF JULY 28
AND ADVISE DEPARTMENT BY NIACT IMMEDIATE OF KENYAN
REACTION. IF POSSIBLE WE PREFER TO HAVE THIS INFORMA-
TION PRIOR TO INFORMING SOMALI AMBASSADOR ADDOU OF OUR
DECISION ON AFTERNOON OF JULY 28.

CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

APPROVED BY:IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:KSMITH

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O 281825Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 9017

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190599

EXDIS FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 190599 ACTION NAIROBI MOGADISCIO
INFO ADDIS ABABA SANA JIDDA KHARTOUM DJIBOUTI SECDEF JCS CNO
CINCUSAVEUR CINCPAC USCINCEUR COMIDEASTFOR CINCPACFLT JUL 28

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190599

EXDIS- MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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